

**To:** Ferrell, Mark[Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov]  
**From:** Barnard, Brian  
**Sent:** Tue 2/17/2015 3:42:38 PM  
**Subject:** Re: CSX derailment update

Mark,

Thank you very much for this. I have passed along the information to Congressman Jenkins and our Chief of Staff. Please keep me updated as the situation develops. Much appreciated!

Brian

On Feb 17, 2015, at 10:36 AM, Ferrell, Mark <[Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov)> wrote:

**Hi Brian**

**Our EPA on-site coordinator (OSC) arrived at the derailment site Monday evening and is collaborating as part of the Incident Command team. Additional EPA assets are en route to the scene this morning (2/17/15).**

**Though many media reports state that crude oil has spilled into the Kanawha River, EPA cannot yet confirm this. EPA cannot yet confirm that any rail cars are actually in the river. Fires are being allowed to continue to burn out of concern that fire suppression could wash oil into the river.**

**Water samples are being taken by CSX and WVDEP, and taken to West Virginia American Water Co. for analysis. EPA has contracted independent analysis of water samples, and is also conducting air sampling.**

**EPA has a presence at the Incident Command center located at the Montgomery Fire Department, and is in collaboration with CSX, WVDEP, WVDHHR and U.S. Coast Guard.**

**Severe weather conditions are expected to continue to present formidable challenges to all entities involved in response efforts. Powerlines nearby the explosions have melted or burned, leaving more than 700 locals without electricity during freezing temperatures.**

**I will provide you and Rep. Jenkins with additional updates on EPA involvement as the situation continues to develop.**

**~Mark**

**Mark Ferrell**

**EPA Region 3**

**Office of Communications and Government Relations**

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